NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
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Two Correspondents

As the work of the National Council and the National Trust expands, the volume of incoming mail grows larger. This is a story of recent correspondence with two men who were not National Council members.

The first letter came from the head of a preservation project. We are deeply worried, he wrote, because of the present war situation, and we should like to have your candid advice as to whether we should continue our program.

The answer was categorically affirmative. It reasoned that this is not the first time in history that men have believed an Armageddon was imminent. The threat of war or war itself might demand curtailment of program, but it certainly should not mean abandonment, if we really believe in the work that we are trying to do. In wartimes we appoint commissions to protect our cultural heritage and even to protect sites, buildings, and objects on alien soil that we believe to be an international heritage. Can we do less in our own communities? The least we can do is to try to assure stabilization, to offset further unnecessary destruction of that which we are trying to preserve. If preservation organizations should disintegrate in the face of a presumed emergency, who would be the custodians of the interests we are now trying to save? The ultimate end of our work is to show all Americans why they may be proud of their heritage, and we shall need the strength that can be derived from a just pride in our past.

The response was favorable - the project is being reorganized and will continue and the National Council will shortly have yet another member organization.

The second correspondence was the result of a routine inquiry. The writer first asked whether the Council and Trust could intercede with the Federal Government on behalf of "Boscobel", an architecturally unique structure on the banks of the Hudson River in New York State. It was with some pride that the successful efforts to save "Boscobel", through the cooperation of several member organizations and many individual members, was recounted. How an investigation in Washington led the National Council's Board Chairman to the office of the Veteran's Administrator; how a stop order was immediately put on the proposed destruction so that recommendations for preservation could be made; how staff members, joined by cooperating members, made a trip to "Boscobel"; and how finally, as a result of their report, the Veterans Administration agreed to provide money to effect the stabilization of the structure until further funds could be found to assure its permanent preservation.

The correspondent wrote a heartwarming answer. He explained that he had retired and was living in a Home for the Aged. His limited budget allowed no extravagance, but "I should like to have the honor and privilege of membership in an organization that is so much needed; to that end I enclose cheque, $10."

Two letters out of hundreds, but as the National Council comes together for its Fourth Annual Meeting, they tell more perhaps about the progress that is being made than could be told in a hundred pages.

In and Out of Headquarters. The unseemly cool Washington summer enabled the officers and staff not only to perfect the reorganizational effort of the National Council and National Trust but also to conduct its expanding daily business. The new Administrator, Mr. Henry H. Surface, and his Assistant, Mrs. Virginia L. Nelson, have projected a program that will be outlined at length at the annual meeting. It is their job to assure the financial foundation of the Council and Trust, and they plan a varied, a far-sighted program. Membership, fund-raising through the media of corporations and foundations, as well as individuals, revised publications, cooperation with other agencies, and budget have kept them busy. Mrs. Robert W. Patterson has dealt largely with membership, which is a primary concern for a growing organization.

At the same time, the Director, Mr. Frederick L. Rath, Jr., and his Assistant, Miss Betty L. Walsh, reveling in the relief from fiscal matters, have been able to devote more attention to preservation causes. Their efforts, as this "Report" goes to press, are being abetted by Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, who has been borrowed from the Library of Congress to set up the Historical Branch of the National Council. Mrs. Bullock is already known to many in the field of preservation for her work at Colonial Williamsburg as archivist and assistant to Mr. Harold Shurtleff, Director of Research. To others she is known as the author of The Williamsburg art of cookery and My head and my heart: A little history of Thomas Jefferson and Maria Cosway, and as indexer and cataloguer of the Jefferson and Lincoln papers. Few better qualified persons could have been found to undertake the formulation of the research and historical program of the National Council and the National Trust.

New member organizations, bringing the total to 64, now include:

Staten Island Historical Society
Historic Charleston, Inc. (South Carolina)
St. Augustine (Florida) Historical Society
& Institute of Science

In addition there were many new individual members. To all, we extend a cordial welcome into the ranks of the growing National Council.

Members of the staff took several field trips on National Council and Trust business. Noteworthy was the intercession on behalf of "Boscobel", which has been mentioned on the first page of this "Report". Other matters with which the Council dealt will be mentioned in the following pages.

The headquarters office now has a number of copies of two publications of the British National Trust which it will be happy to send to anyone desiring them. One of the booklets is entitled English landmarks for Americans and the other is a complete listing of properties owned by the British Trust.

Mrs. Robert H. Wall, Jr., who was formerly on the staff of the West Coast's Sunset magazine and later Look magazine, has been assisting in the revision of the Council's publications on a voluntary basis.

One of the Life Members of the National Council, Mrs. Howard C. Davidson, died suddenly early in August. Mrs. Davidson, who had been interested in preservation for

many years, was one of the enthusiastic early supporters of the Council. She had manifested her interest in this work in many ways and her participation in our efforts will be missed.

Mr. David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has been elected Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Fourth Annual Meeting. The forthcoming meeting at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C., on October 19 and 20, will bring together more than a hundred members, delegates, and friends. The successful pattern of past meetings has again been adopted and once more in a day and a half there will be presented a full program on preservation. Dr. Luther Evans, Librarian of Congress and longtime friend of the National Council, will deliver the opening address at the business session on the morning of the 19th. General Grant, Mr. Finley, and others will recount the history of the National Council and the National Trust during the past year. The plans and program for the forthcoming year will be reviewed. After luncheon at the National Gallery, there will be a session on "Preserving Historic Sites and Buildings" that will cover the gamut of preservation from acquisition to interpretation. Among the speakers will be Mr. George McAneny, Mrs. J. Danforth Bush of New Castle, Delaware, Mr. Erwin Zepp of Ohio, Mr. Earle Newton of Massachusetts, and Mr. Randle Truett of Washington, D. C. The annual dinner will feature brief talks by Ambassador Mauricio Nabuco of Brazil, Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, and Mrs. George Henry Warren of Newport. The closing session on the morning of the 20th will have as moderator Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, who will be assisted by a panel of a dozen experts in various fields of preservation.

For the first time in more than a century visitors to California this year will be able to look at all twenty-one of the missions established by Franciscan missionaries between 1769 and 1823. Through the efforts of civic, historical and religious organizations and the State Park Commission, there has been extensive restoration of the missions, many of which have been mentioned in previous issues. This work has run from a complete restoration, as in the case of the Mission San Rafael Arcangel, the only one to be completely destroyed, to the making of a 500-pound bronze bell for the Mission San Antonio de Padua. The largest of the recent restoration projects was the Mission San Luis Rey. Through grants from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, structures on two sides of the mission's original 300-foot quadrangle were rebuilt.

PROPOSED PRESERVATIONS

Benicia, California. Action on a proposal to restore the State Capitol Building in Benicia, Solano County, California, has been deferred by the State Commission of Parks until more information can be compiled on the estimated cost. Benicia, founded by the Spaniards in 1848, was California's capital in 1853 and 1854. The City of Benicia owns the old Capitol Building, and has asked the State to restore it as an historical monument, permitting the City to retain use of it.

South Huntington, Long Island. The birthday anniversary of Walt Whitman, "the good gray poet", who was born in South Huntington on May 31, 1819, was celebrated there by the opening of a campaign to raise funds to purchase and restore the poet's birth-

place as a permanent memorial. The Walt Whitman Birthplace Association on that day outlined a plan for raising $50,000 for this purpose. Of his native Long Island, the poet wrote, "My tongue, every atom of my soul, formed from this soil, this air."

Fisher, New York. Fisher's old cobblestone pumphouse, one of the oldest railroad structures in the United States, has passed another crisis. The building on the Auburn Branch of the New York Central Railroad was first condemned to be razed in 1938, but gained a reprieve through the intercession of J. Sheldon Fisher, descendant of the town's founder, and railroad historian. He reported that it marked the site where ground was broken in 1838 for the first link in rail transportation across the state, and that for years it served as a pumphouse to supply water for wood-burning locomotives, and nearby buildings. When the decision was made again a few months ago to destroy the old structure, Fisher appealed so successfully to the New York Central Railroad, that they have not only decided to save the old landmark, but to restore and preserve it as an historic site.

Sandwich, Massachusetts. The Old Mill Tavern has been sold to John Fox of Boston, who plans to continue operating the property as an inn, expanding it and restoring the grist mill on the site to working order. The original grist mill was erected in 1637 by Thomas Dexter on a site surveyed by Miles Standish and John Alden.

Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. The house built by Caleb Pusey 267 years ago on the banks of Chester Creek has been rescued from squatters through the action of Delaware County Court. George Plowman, president of the Delaware County Historical Society, sought court action to save the stone house built by Pusey, friend and confidant of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. In its ancient rooms such historic decisions were made as that fixing the boundaries between Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey. A trusteeship had been established more than a century ago to care for the house as an historic relic. The death of the last trustee thirty years ago, without designating a successor, left the house involved in such a tangle of litigation, that it became a prey to dozens of squatters who committed many acts of vandalism and whose carelessness threatened its total destruction.

Rome, New York. Patriotic and civic groups of Oneida and Herkimer counties, New York, will appeal to the State this fall to establish Oriskany Battlefield site as a state park. The battle held here was one of the bloodiest in the Revolutionary War. The state already owns 5 acres surrounding the Oriskany Monument. The Mohawk Valley Historical Association, owner of another large portion of the site offers to contribute as much as 50 acres if the State acquires the portion of 28 acres known as the "Bloody Ravine", where American forces under General Nicholas Herkheimer were ambushed, before they rallied and drove the British back to Canada and saved the Mohawk Valley.

Gunnison, Colorado. Tincup, an old ghost town high in the Swatch Range northeast of Gunnison, is about to be revived and rebuilt as a relic of Colorado's mining past. A group of citizens known as the Tincup Civic Association are sponsors of this nonprofit program of preservation.

Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Dr. Henry T. McDonald of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, was named by Governor Okey Patterson to head a Harper's Ferry National Monument Commission. The State group will work with the Department of the Interior to establish a monument in this Jefferson County community where the abolitionist, John Brown, seized a government arsenal before the Civil War.

Fort Edward, New York. Aroused by the threatened tax sale of the old Patt Smyth house, built about 1767 of timber that composed an old pre-Revolutionary fort,

the Fort Edward Historical Society has re-organized to consider purchasing the house and maintaining it as a museum for the preservation of historic records, and as a community center.

Hatboro, Pennsylvania. The Hatboro Federal Savings and Loan Association has purchased an historic house built in 1742 by John Harrison, the great grandson of Nicholas More, who received the original tract of 10,000 acres known as the Manor of Moreland from William Penn. It will restore the building, adding modern facilities for its use as a head-quarters building for their organization.

Janesville, Wisconsin. The Milton Historical Society has retained Hugo Logemann, a Milwaukee architect, to draw tentative plans for a restoration of Milton House, an old Rock County, Wisconsin, hostelry, which was deeded to the Milton Historical Society last November. In restoring the old structure, provision will be made for its use as a museum, and it will include such practical features as a meeting hall and a tea room.

Inglewood, California. An old adobe ranch house built about 1844 near the present city limits of Ingleside, California, by Don Machado, first provisional title holder of the Rancho Aguije de la Centinela, is to be preserved and maintained as an historical landmark. A nonprofit corporation formed by the Chamber of Commerce, the Le Tijera Chapter of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, and old residents of the Centinela Valley, will sponsor this restoration. An historical pageant centering around the old adobe house was held on September 10 as part of Inglewood's observance of California's Admission Day celebration.

On September 9, the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities sponsored an historic tour of Stony Brook and Setauket. Included in the tour was the collection of old carriages gotten together by Mr. Ward Melville, founder of the Suffolk Museum at Stony Brook. The collection of old carts, carriages, gigs, and sulkies was displayed on the Dominick Farm now owned by Richard M. Gipson and Roger Wentworth. In addition to the Collection, the Society's tour included the Thompson House, which is being restored for its headquarters; the Jayne House furnished by Howard C. Sherwood; the Caroline Church of Brookhaven; and the Setauket Presbyterian Church.

PRESERVATIONS IN PROGRESS

Santa Barbara, California. In announcing plans for the traditional Old Spanish Days Fiesta in Santa Barbara in August, the friars of Mission Santa Barbara told residents it would be the last time the celebration would be held in the shadow of the old mission towers on the hill above the city. Tests have shown that the facade of the historic structure had been weakened by its 130 years, and by numerous earthquakes, and was no longer safe.

The ancient bells, and the worn statue of St. Barbara, the city's patron saint, have been dismantled, and stand before the mission in preparation for a complete razing and renovation. Minute details of the present structure have been recorded to guide the rebuilding, which will be financed by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation Fund for the restoration of California missions.

Chicago, Illinois. "Portage de Checagou", or the Chicago portage where Louis Joliet and Father Marquette turned east on the Mississippi River to begin their "short-cut" to the Great Lakes, ceased to exist 120 years ago, but ninety acres of the historic site are being acquired by the Forest Preserve District of Illinois, a member organization of the National Council, for preservation.

Syracuse, New York. To make room for a bigger and better road approaching the new Thompson road bridge, the 140-year old home of Mrs. J. Henry Jones is being moved 300 feet to another site on the Jones property. It has been in the family most of the time since its erection; it watched the birth and death of the Erie Canal, and has seen homebuilders and industry take over the woodlands and fields that once surrounded it.

Fort Garland, San Luis Valley, Colorado. Four dioramas have just been installed in the museum of Fort Garland, depicting Spanish Conquistadores, an army ambulance and artillery pack train, an army escort wagon and a stage coach holdup. The dioramas were prepared by Juan Menchaca and Roy Vernon Hunt. The State Historical Society of Colorado, which administers this memorial, has named the East Barracks building in the Fort, Collins Hall, in recognition of the services of Alfred M. Collins, chairman of the Fort Garland Committee, in developing the Fort's museum.

Greenbush, Michigan. Wade House, a 102-year-old hotel at Greenbush, Michigan, has been purchased by the Kohler Foundation, Inc., for restoration as a museum and memorial to the late Marie Christian Kohler. Built by Sylvanus Wade between 1848 and 1851, it was operated as a stage coach stop on the old plank road between Sheboygan and Fond du Lac. The hostelry remained in the Wade family until 1941, when it was purchased and partially restored by Mrs. Martin Dorst, who operated it as a restaurant. The restoration will be completed by the Kohler Foundation before the building is presented to the Wisconsin Historical Society. Its furnishings include some of the finest antiques in the Middle West.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia has yielded to the nation its role as guardian of Independence Hall, and other buildings closely linked to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Next January, the National Park Service will take over custody of Independence Hall, Congress Hall, Old City Hall, and certain historical relics to be administered as part of Independence National Historical Park, which was authorized by Congress in June, 1948. Three city blocks are involved in the project and include such historic shrines as Carpenters Hall, where the First Continental Congress met; site of Franklin Court, where Benjamin Franklin kept his printing office and lived when he signed the Declaration and the Constitution; and some lands and buildings adjacent to Christ Church, where George Washington and other delegates to the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention worshipped.

The Third Williamsburg Antiques Forum will be held in 1951 in three similar sessions from January 22 through February 9, it has been announced. Among the speakers during the three sessions will be C. Milby Burton, Director of the Charleston Museum; Marshall B. Davidson of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; Nina Fletcher Little of Brookline, Massachusetts; Charles F. Montgomery, associate curator of the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum; and Luther H. Evans, Librarian of Congress. Advance registration and inquiries should be directed to Mrs. Alma Lee Rowe, Registrar, Goodwin Building, Williamsburg, Virginia.

ACTIVE PRESERVATIONS

Concord, Massachusetts. The Trustees of Public Reservations (Massachusetts) are seeking an endowment fund for the permanent maintenance of the "Old Manse" at Concord, Massachusetts, one of the country's famous historical and literary shrines. The Trustees have stated that they wish to save the "Old Manse", which was built in 1769 by the Reverend William Emerson, and later was the home of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne, from possible commercial exploitation.

Detroit, Michigan. This year marked the dedication of Fort Wayne Military museum in Detroit. The Museum embraces the old Fort, transferred last year to the city for restoration under the administration of the Detroit Historical Commission. Exhibits on the Fort's history have been installed in two air-conditioned tunnels; explosives and arms are shown in the restored powder magazine; and heavy pieces of armament have been set up on the parade grounds. Some walls have been rebuilt, exposed tunnels have been covered, and a fence has been put around the 15-acre site. Further restoration will continue as funds are available.

Williamsburg, Virginia. This past year has seen much activity in the restored capital of Colonial Virginia. In addition to presentation of Paul Green's historical pageant, "The Common Glory", for another successful season; a program of architectural restoration and reconstruction has continued. The 220th anniversary of the establishment of printing in Virginia, and the 174th anniversary of the proclaiming of the Declaration of Independence in Williamsburg, was celebrated on July 25, with the dedication of the Printing Office in the restored Archibald Blair House on Duke of Gloucester Street. Kleig lights and motion picture cameras became a common sight as work continued on a series of documentary films, with sound and color effects, designed to interpret the life in the colonial capital, and the stirring events of American history which occurred there.

Clinton, Iowa. The old "halfway house" on the pony express route between Davenport and Dubuque, Iowa, long believed to have been a station on the underground railway over which fugitive slaves escaped to free soil, has once more undergone substantial changes, by being enlarged and modernized as a private residence. Built in 1837 or 1838, the tavern offered "corn bread and common doins 15 cents. Wheat bread and chicken fixins, 25 cents". Another 25 cents would permit the traveler to spread his blanket roll before the fireplace.

Milton, Massachusetts. The "Suffolk Resolves House", in the town of Milton, Massachusetts, is about to be moved to a new site on the estate of Dr. and Mrs. James B. Ayer, on Canton Street, who will remove, resotre and preserve the house. They will permit access to it by members of the Milton Historical Society, who received it as a bequest from Alexander H. Copley, but without the land upon which it stood.

Philmont, New Mexico. Kit Carson's house at Philmont is being reconstructed upon its old foundations by the Boy Scouts of America, Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico, under the direction of George C. Bullock. The curator and museum specialist of the Laboratory of Anthropology Museum of New Mexico, is advising the Boy Scouts on suitable exhibits for the house once occupied by the famous guide and trapper of the American West.

Ipswich, Massachusetts. An art center has been established at Castle Hill, Ipswich, Massachusetts, to afford instruction in water color, tempera, and oil, under

the direction of a competent staff. This 42-room residence of the late Richard T. Crane, is reminiscent of Corsham Court, Wilshire near Bath, the Elizabethan seat of the Earl of Methuen. It is surrounded by 350 acres of the Castle Hill drumlin, with beaches, dunes and salt marsh, which in 1949 became the property of the Trustees of Public Reservations (Massachusetts). When it was acquired, the Great House was almost entirely without furnishings, but the Art Center re-furnished the house on simple lines before the opening of the course on July 5.

The Art Institute of Chicago and the University of Illinois are jointly sponsoring a plan to microfilm working drawings and other pertinent material which can reveal the essential details of the "Chicago school" of architecture. Since many of these early modern buildings are gradually vanishing, a number of Chicago architects have proposed that architectural archives be established at the Burnham Library of Architecture and the Ricker Library of Architecture. Mr. John G. Replinger has been appointed as Executive Associate in Charge of the Microfilming Project.

FOREIGN PRESERVATIONS.

Cuzco, Peru. A sponsoring committee of artists, archaeologists, and historians is being sought in North American institutions by Jose Luis Bustamente i Rivero, to promote action on behalf of this ancient Peruvian city, which suffered severe damage in the earthquake in May. This archaeological center possesses invaluable monuments and relics of pre-Inca and Inca civilizations, as well as those of the Spanish colonial period. Its restoration is urged in the interest of all of those who are concerned with evidence of the early civilization of the Americas.

Ascot, England. Ascot, a long rambling half-timbered house, with views across the Vale of Aylesbury to the Chilterns, with its grounds, an endowment, and a magnificent collection of paintings, furnishings, and Oriental porcelains, has been presented to The National Trust by Mr. and Mrs. Anthony de Rothschild. The family will continue to live at Ascot, but the Trust hopes that the public will be able to view the house and its collections by next summer.

The British National Trust has issued a calendar for the forthcoming year composed of photographs of various Trust properties. A few of the historic buildings shown are Bodiam Castle Sussex, Willy Lott's Cottage, Suffolk and Hyde's House, Wiltshire. These calendars may be ordered from W. F. Sedgwick Ltd.,Wren House, 47/49 Hopton Street, London, S.E. 1. The cost, including mailing, will be $1.00 per copy.

Preservations in Danger

Charleston, South Carolina. Successful bidder at the auction of the old Charleston Orphan House property was a large mail order house, which erects retail stores in urban areas. The property comprises a four acre tract, on a portion of which stands a small chapel, erected in 1802, fronting on a rear street. The chapel was designed by Charleston's noted early architect, Gabriel Manigault. The National Council has joined with Historic Charleston, Inc. and others active in the Charleston restoration program in making every effort to assure its preservation.

Fort Churchill, Nevada. The editor of the Fallon, Nevada Eagle reports that souvenir hunters have pried loose and carried away the bronze placque erected at Fort Churchill, a pioneer Nevada landmark. Vandals in the past have literally carried away most vestiges of the original Fort, but interested citizens are being urged to protect, and perhaps even to restore, the Fort.

Queens, New York. When Christmas comes to New York City this year, it will be a day of mourning for children of all ages, who ever listened to the magic words, " 'Twas the night before Christmas..." The Board of Estimate has ordered the sale of the last remaining few acres of the old Moore farm in Elmhurst, Queens, ancestral home of the Reverend Clement C. Moore, author of A Visit from St. Nicholas. Until recent years, the old farm home built in 1662, was still standing at the bottom of a canyon of apartment buildings. The undeveloped woodland around the old home was a favorite children's playground. It was proposed that the informal playground be given official sanction by development as a neighborhood park. The land being valued at $230,000., the Board decided to sell. The children will have to find some other place to play. Dasher, and Dancer, and the other reindeer belonging to the jolly old gentleman will have to find another pasture.

Washington, D. C. "Woodley", historic Summer White House, and recently the home of Henry L. Stimson, is once again the subject of concern to local residents who wish the old building preserved. In the spring they appealed to the District Board of Zoning Adjustment to deny the request of the Maret School to convert part of the estate to school use, in order to permit efforts to be made to preserve it as a national shrine. Owners of half of the estate have now asked for permission to build a five-story luxury apartment on half of the site, preserving the trees "as far as practicable."

North White Plains, New York. The editor of the Yonkers Herald Statesman has charged Westchester County officials with neglect for failing to maintain a pre-Revolutionary farmhouse in North White Plains, which served as staff headquarters of the Continental Army on several occasions. Daughters of the American Revolution and members of the Westchester County Historical Society have appealed repeatedly for crucial repairs. According to the editor, "Today the house is a shambles, no longer habitable for a caretaker, and in real danger of deteriorating to the point where it will have to be razed."

Alexandria, Virginia. Members of the Alexandria Association and the Alexandria Historical Society have been making last minute efforts to save the historic Ramsay House on King Street. The 202-year old structure stands on land owned by the city, and has been condemned as unsafe and a potential fire hazard. Since 1944, only $7000 of an estimated $30,000 has been raised for the necessary restoration work; and the City Council meets soon to consider once more the razing of the building.

Dr. Frank M. Setzler, Council Member and Head Curator of the Department of Anthropology, U. S. National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, has been awarded the Franklin L. Burr Prize of $1,000 by the National Geographic Society, for outstanding service in the Science of geography. The award was made in particular for Dr. Setzler's work as deputy director of the recent ethnological-biological expedition to Arnhem Land, Australia.

Zoning. In the June issue of the "Quarterly report" we mentioned that the Germantown Historical Society was sponsoring the introduction of an ordinance to protect sections of old Germantown in Philadelphia. On September 14, an ordinance to

create a seven-man Germantown Historical Sites Commission was introduced in the Philadelphia Council by Councilman John J. McDevitt, 3rd. The ordinance would designate the areas between Logan Street and School Lane and Haines and Phil-Ellena Streets, and all land 400 yards on either side of Germantown Avenue, as historic sites. The Commission would have jurisdiction over the erection, alteration, or demolition of buildings in these areas.

On September 26, the Valentine Museum, of Richmond, Virginia, gave a tea to meet Miss Mary Wingfield Scott, author of the recent book Old Richmond neighborhoods. The occasion was the opening of an exhibition "Old buildings in modern Richmond" designated by the City Planning Commission's Advisory Committee on Historic Zoning.

Pointing to the Washington Square controversy, a recent editorial in the Saturday Evening Post cautions other cities about the dangers that threaten their historic landmarks through lack of adequate zoning regulations.

Passing Parade.

Cumberland, N. Y. CASE TAVERN ON ALBANY ROAD TO WEST DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Los Angeles, Cal. OPEN BIDS FOR RAZING HISTORIC LUGO HOUSE AND EIGHTEEN ADJACENT OLD BUILDINGS.

Petersburg, Va. OLD BOLLING HOME RAZED TO MAKE WAY FOR PARKING LOT.

Harrisburg, Pa. FIRE DAMAGES HISTORIC HOME OF McCORMICKS.

Herkheimer, N. Y. OLDEST INDUSTRIAL BUILDING IN CITY GONE WITH REMOVAL OF FARM MACHINERY WAREHOUSE.

Washington, D. C. HISTORIC DOUGLAS ROW TO VANISH.

East Harrisburg, Pa. CROWDS GATHER TO WITNESS REMOVAL OF BELL FROM 90-YEAR OLD ST. PETERS TO NEW CHURCH.

Olean, N. Y. HISTORIC BUILDING AT ALFRED U. DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR $940,000 CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY.

New Hampton, Ia. LAWLER LANDMARK TO BE RAZED. OLD RAILROADING HOTEL TO BE REPLACED BY PRODUCE BUILDING.

New Bethelehem, Pa. WRECKING CREWS AT WORK ON OLD PASSENGER DEPOT. HISTORIC SITE TO BE GARAGE AND COALYARD.

Cambridge, N. Y. OLD ENGINE HOUSE SOLD TO MAKE ROOM FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

Gettysburg, Pa. HOUSE OF JENNIE WADE ONLY WOMAN KILLED IN BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG TOTAL LOSS IN FIRE.

Buffalo, N. Y. CHERRY HOUSE DOOMED. OLD ERIE CANAL LANDMARK TO BE RAZED.

Parkersburg, W. Va. ANOTHER CITY LANDMARK TO BE RAZED TO PERMIT SERVICE STATION EXPANSION.

Doyleston, Pa. TWO ANCIENT LANDMARKS TOPPLED TO GROUND. BLAST LEAVES ONLY SHELL OF RELICS OF ZINC MINING DAYS.

Archeological Notes.

Missouri River Basin. The Federal Government, which will supply funds on a matching basis, has completed contracts for archeological research with the State Universities of Kansas, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Montana, with the North Dakota Historical Society, the Nebraska State Historical Society, the University of Nebraska State museum, and the University of Nebraska Laboratory of Anthropology.

Maine. Digging in the area for the first time in 50 years, Wendell Hatlock, National Park Service archeologist, has already found evidences of old buildings at St. Croix National Monument Project, which has been mentioned in earlier issues of the "Report."

The Dakotas. Three expeditions have been working in the Dakotas this summer. One party at the Angostura Reservoir, near Hot Springs, South Dakota, worked in an area which they believe promises to be the most significant in the survey of areas to be flooded by reservoirs. Another group excavated at the site of the first Fort Randall, near Chamerlain, South Dakota, a fort which was one of the earliest posts occupied by troops in the Indian wars. An earth lodge village site was excavated by a third group at the Garrison Reservoir in North Dakota. Work was sponsored by the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Ohio. Excavations were conducted at an Indian knoll-type village site in Hueston Woods State Park, near Oxford, by the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society during the summer.

Washington. The National Park Service is cooperating with the State of Washington in archeological work at Spokane House, a former Hudson's Bay outpost. Mr. Louis Caywood, who is in charge of the dig, recently brought from the earth at Fort Vancouver National Monument guns, traps, British dishes, and the remains of a blacksmith shop.

Illinois. The Illinois State Museum, in cooperation with the University of Chicago and the Southern Illinois University, conducted operations at the Hopewellian site near Rising Sun and at the Kaskaskia Village site in Randolph County.

In Print. In the July, 1950, issue of Landscape Architecture, Stanley W. Abbott, Regional Landscape Architect of the National Park Service, Region 1, has an excellent illustrated article on "Historic preservations; perpetuation of scenes where history becomes real." He describes the many problems of the Park Service in maintaining almost one hundred historic places in its keeping in such a way as to "stop time at a great moment in history so as to cause men busy about present things to pause and to look with understanding into the past."

Carl H. Bridenbagh, for five years Director of the Institute of Early American Culture at Williamsburg, Virginia, and now Margaret Byrne Professor of History at the University of California, is author of Seat of empire. It is the first of a series of popular accounts dealing with various aspects of eighteenth century life in Williamsburg and Virginia, to be published under the auspices of Colonial Williamsburg.

Frederick L. Rath, Jr., Director of the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings, is the author of "Our historic heritage", in the September, 1950, issue of The County Officer. It is a factual story of the National Council and National Trust, with particular reference to the problem of preservation in counties. It is available in reprint form at Headquarters in the Octagon House.

In honor of the sesquicentennial of the establishment of the city of Washington as the nation's capital, Chalmers M. Roberts has published Washington past and present: a pictorial history of the nation's capital. In past years the author has been identified with four of Washington's daily newspapers, and has served as picture editor of Life magazine. His journalistic skill and flair for illustration is reflected in this work. There are illustrations of historical mementoes, historic documents, rare daguerreotypes, old engravings, and famous paintings. The photographs range from Mathew B. Brady's remarkable Civil War photographs recorded on sensitized glass, to the high-speed products of modern aerial photography.

A new volume devoted entirely to the American production of cut and engraved glass has just been published by M. Barrows & Company, Dorothy Daniel's Cut and engraved glass, 1771-1905.

Millicent Stow's American silver by the same publisher, is a concise but comprehensive volume tracing the history of the art of silversmithing in America in relation to the social history of the country. The illustrations provide an excellent pictorial record of the art.

Report of the Gowers Committee on the British National Trust, set up by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in December, 1948, was published June 22, 1950. Its principal recommendation is that the Government should give financial support to a new statutory body for England and Wales to help preserve houses of outstanding historical and architectural interest. A separate statutory body is recommended for Scotland. Copies of this interesting report may be obtained from His Majesty's Stationer.

The National Park Service has published the first three booklets in its new Historical Handbook Series. They deal with Custer Battlefield in Montana; Jamestown, Virginia; and the Lincoln Museum and House where Lincoln died in Washington. These fine, well-written and well-illustrated booklets may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. for 20¢ each.

Historic Sites, New York. The New York State Joint Legislative Committee to Study Historic Sites is continuing its work of classification of sites and buildings. This Committee, in the second year of its work, has issued an interim report in which it is pointed out that the State has no central agency with control over historically important places. Preservation of historic sites is now handled by the Public Works Department, the State Education Department, and the State Historian, and neither agency alone has funds to restore and preserve sites. In the opinion of the Committee, one of the greatest needs is the formulation of an over-all program, which will ultimately cut costs and enable funds to stretch farther. The Committee

is continuing its tour of the State, with Long Island and upstate New York already visited. Copies of the Interim Report of the Committee may be obtained from the State Historian, State Education Building, Albany 1, New York.

Trends of the Times.

A state-wide campaign to raise $500,000 to erect a memorial building to house the war souvenirs and trophies of General Dwight D. Eisenhower has been inaugurated in his boyhood home at Abilene, Kansas.

A sunrise benedictory service was held at Westport, Connecticut, by members of the congregation of 118-year old Saugatuck Church. The services were held in the middle of the Boston Post Road, where the 200-ton landmark church, wrapped in steel cables, was poised on its way across the road to a new site, where it is to be restored, and will be substantially enlarged by additions.

Twenty historical markers will be placed in South Florida by the Historical Association of Southern Florida. The first approved site will be at the Indian Village Tequesta at the mouth of the Miami River, which marks the birthplace of Miami.

Fort Hamilton, New York, has recently unveiled a bronze placque on the lawn of the two-story white frame house where General Robert E. Lee, C.S.A., lived from 1841 to 1846, while with the U. S. Engineers directing construction of the Fort. The placque was a gift of the New York Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

PITY THE POOR SQUIRE WHO OWNS TWO CASTLES is the headline on a signed article from London, depicting those who live in the stately homes of England as distinguished paupers. Trouble with the taxing authorities and the high cost of labor and material for maintenance have led many of them to the desperate resort of tearing them down to sell the materials.

Funds will be made available by the State of Washington to state and local groups engaged in marking historic sites. At one of the first meetings of representatives of groups concerned a marker was proposed for the grave of Ranold MacDonald, one of the founders of the Hudson's Bay post at Fort Colville, who came to the Colville valley in the 1830's.

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, and the State Aeronautics Commission sponsored Historical Flights this summer to places of historical interest in the state. From 100 to 200 privately owned planes made the trips.

Surplus Properties. A recent issue of Planning and civic comment contains an article by Ralph W. Emerson entitled "Park land at bargain prices." In this article Mr. Emerson summarizes the efforts of State and local governments to obtain surplus Federal lands at reduced cost for the development of public parks and recreational areas. These efforts were made possible under the provisions of Public Law 616, 80th Congress, which applied only in the disposal of properties declared surplus prior to July 1, 1949, and Public Law 152, 81st Congress, under which the General Services Administration, the agency which will handle future procurement, utilization, and disposal of all government properties, was created.

Mr. Emerson states that applications for 35 separate wartime installations were received prior to November 1, 1949 and that most of the requested properties

were located in the States of California and Florida. Twenty-nine surplus installations were requested for public park and recreational use. Twenty-six transfers have been authorized to date, including the Tobyhanna Military Reservation, Pennsylvania; Old Fort Wayne, Detroit; Fort Moultrie in Charleston, South Carolina; and Angel Island (Fort McDowell) located in San Francisco Bay.

Under the provisions of the new legislation, disposal of surplus property to State and local governments for public park, recreational area, and historic monument purposes will continue, but will be subject to the administrative policies of the General Services Administration. The National Park Service will continue to participate in the program and will offer such advisory services as may be required.

The National Council assisted in the procuring of this legislation during its earliest days and continues to help with some of the individual applications. Most recently it has been working with the State of New Hampshire on the case of Fort Constitution in Portsmouth Harbor.